

I oppose the Broadcast Ownership - Docket 02-277 rule change, and urge the FCC to withdraw it.

Democracy is built on the idea that the views and beliefs of an \*informed\* citizenry are the best basis for political decision-making. We the public depend on a diverse, independent media to inform us accurately. Therefore, we need many competitive media entities -- to keep each other honest, and to provide the information and ideas that make democracy happen.

Unfortunately, wealthy corporate interests (such as Clear Channel) have recently been buying up media outlets and gaining increased control over the news we hear. The result has been limited coverage, where corporate corruption and the economic hardships of the middle and lower class have had minimal media, and therefore minimal political, attention.

The Federal government, as representatives of the public, lease the airwaves to media companies in exchange for their assurance that they're serving the public interest, not just corporate interests. It's the FCC's job to make sure that's so.

I urge the FCC to hold to its mandate and withdraw Broadcast Ownership - Docket 02-277.